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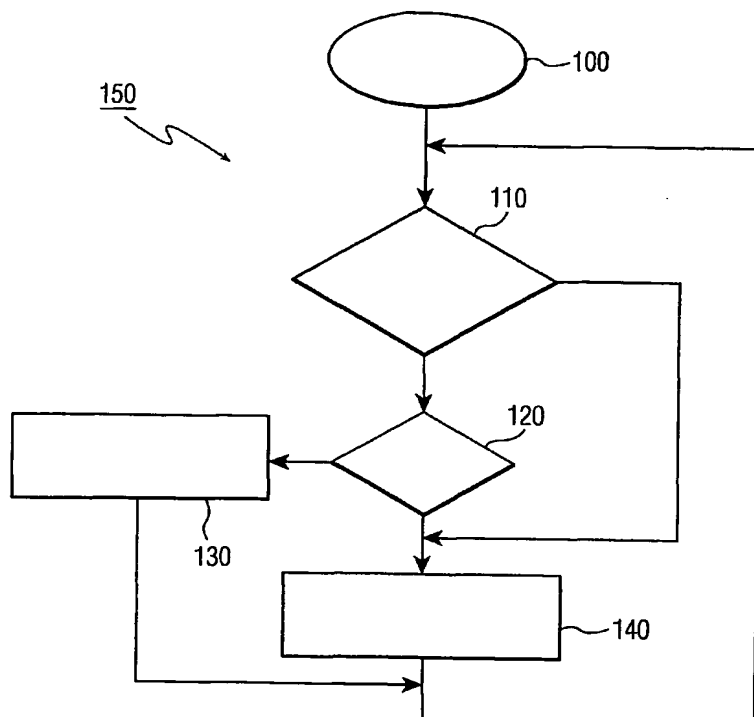
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(54) Title: **SYSTEM AND METHOD OF THEFT PREVENTION FOR AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE BY LOWERING QUALITY-OF-SERVICE**



(57) Abstract: This invention provides a system and method for preventing theft of an electronic device that degrades the QoS of at least one function of the device to a pre-determined or "locked" status if pre-set authentication information is not input and validated. The method is carried out by control component on-board the electronic device and the pre-set authentication information is stored internally to the electronic component. Alternatively, the pre-set authentication information is stored in external memory (such as NOR flash, NAND flash, EEPROM, MRAM, etc). The means for inputting the authentication information to be verified against this pre-stored authentication information comprises the device's normal input means or dedicated input means (e.g. a remote control for anti-theft purpose). For example, if the QoS degraded is an internal clock frequency of a laptop computer, the keyboard of the computer serves as one input means and the screen as a display means for requesting that the authentication information be input. QoS is noticeably degraded to discourage a

thief, e.g., alternating between low QoS and high QoS.

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- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations* AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)
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